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New Mexico
Traffic Accident Data
1983

New Mexico Transportation Department
Planning and Development Division
Traffic Safety Bureau

April, 1984

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as a reference source
regarding New Mexico accidents.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
INTRODUCTION	iv
DEFINITIONS	v
GENERAL STATISTICS FOR NEW MEXICO	
1.1 New Mexico Accident Facts, 1983	1
1.2 New Mexico Accidents by Severity, 1983	2
1.3 New Mexico Roadway Statistics, 1974 - 1983	2
1.4 New Mexico and National Death Rates, 1974 - 1983	3
1.5 New Mexico Accident Deaths by Year, 1974 - 1983	3
1.6 New Mexico Accident Injuries by Year, 1974 - 1983	4
1.7 New Mexico Accidents by Year, 1974 - 1983	4
1.8 New Mexico's Accident Rates by Year, 1974 - 1983	4
WHEN ACCIDENTS OCCUR	
2.1 New Mexico Accidents by Month, 1983	5
2.2 New Mexico Accidents by Day of the Week, 1983	5
2.3 New Mexico Accidents by Hour of the Day, 1983	5
2.4 New Mexico's Seven Least Safe Hours of the Week, 1983	6
2.5 New Mexico Accidents During Holiday Periods, 1980 - 1983	6
2.6 New Mexico Fatalities by Day, 1983	7
WHERE ACCIDENTS OCCUR	
3.1 New Mexico Accidents by Road System, 1983	8
3.2 New Mexico Accidents by County, 1983	9
3.3 New Mexico Accidents in Pueblos and Reservations, 1983	9
3.4 New Mexico Accident Rates by County, 1983	10
3.5 New Mexico Interstate Highway Accident Rates, 1983	11-12
3.6 New Mexico Accidents by City, 1983	13-14
3.7 New Mexico's Seven Least Safe Intersections, 1983	15
3.8 New Mexico's Seven Least Safe Rural Highway Segments, 1983	15
3.9 Map of New Mexico's Least Safe Highway Segments, 1983	16
ACCIDENT CHARACTERISTICS	
4.1 New Mexico Accidents by Class, 1983	17
4.2 New Mexico Accidents by Weather, 1983	17
4.3 New Mexico Accidents by Lighting, 1983	17
4.4 New Mexico Fixed Object Accidents, 1983	18
4.5 New Mexico Accident Contributing Factors, 1983	18
4.6 New Mexico Accidents Involving Vehicle or Road Defects, 1978 - 1983	18

VEHICLE TYPE
5.1 New Mexico Accident Involvements by Vehicle Type, 1983 19

PEOPLE IN ACCIDENTS
6.1 New Mexico Accident Driver Age and Sex, 1983 19
6.2 New Mexico Accident Driver Residence, 1983 19
6.3 New Mexico Accident Occupant Age and Sex, 1983 20
6.4 New Mexico Accident Involvement Rates, 1983 20

SEATBELT USAGE
7.1 New Mexico Accident Seatbelt Usage and Injuries, 1983 20

PEDESTRIAN ACCIDENTS
8.1 New Mexico Pedestrians in Accidents, 1983 21
8.2 Seven Worst Counties by Pedestrian Death Rate, 1983 21
8.3 New Mexico Alcohol-involved Pedestrian Accidents, 1983 21

ALCOHOL-INVOLVED ACCIDENTS
9.1 New Mexico Accidents by Alcohol Involvement, 1983 22
9.2 New Mexico Alcohol-involved Drivers in Accidents by Age and Sex, 1983 22
9.3 New Mexico Alcohol-involved Accidents by Hour of the Day, 1983 23
9.4 New Mexico Alcohol-involved Accidents by Day of the Week, 1983 23
9.5 Percent Alcohol-involved Accidents by County, 1983 24
9.6 New Mexico Fatal Alcohol-involved Accidents by Year, 1974 - 1983 25

MOTORCYCLE ACCIDENTS
10.1 New Mexico Motorcycle Accident Trends, 1974 - 1983 25
10.2 New Mexico Helmet Usage and Injuries, 1983 26
10.3 New Mexico Motorcycle Fatalities, 1974 - 1983 26
10.4 New Mexico Motorcycle Accidents by Class, 1983 26
10.5 New Mexico Motorcycle Accident Driver Age, 1983 27

TRAIN ACCIDENTS
11.1 New Mexico Traffic Accidents Involving Trains, 1964 - 1983 27

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INTRODUCTION

This report reviews data about traffic accidents in New Mexico from January through December, 1983, and provides some comparisons of the 1983 experience with previous years and with national accident rates. Accident occurrences are characterized in many different ways. Tables for those who seek reference information are accompanied by simple graphic illustrations of the same data for others who desire only an impressionistic understanding of the material. Maps are provided where geographic perspective is useful.

These data are gathered from traffic accident reports completed by the hundreds of police officers across the state, to whom a great debt is owed. This body of data was compiled in Santa Fe by the Transportation Statistics Bureau of the New Mexico Transportation Department, which provided it to the Division of Government Research at the University of New Mexico. The information was reprocessed there into a form well-suited to analysis by the computer programs which generated this report.

These statistics cover only reported motor vehicle accidents on public roadways which involved death, personal injury, or $100 or more in property damage according to the investigating officer's judgment. No account is kept of unreported accidents or accidents on private property. Information herein is drawn from uniform accident reports. These reports are distinct from those required by New Mexico's Financial Responsibility Act, statutes 66-5-201 to 66-5-248.

Because accidents are both common and random, data are occasionally incomplete or imprecise. Major advances in data integrity have been achieved in recent years in New Mexico. Nevertheless, minor discrepancies between table totals occur in a few places due to missing information.

Requests for further information or additional copies of this report should be addressed to:

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DEFINITIONS

Some special terms are used throughout this report. The following list is provided to help clarify the terms.

GENERAL TERMS

1. Vehicle Miles - the number of miles traveled by motor vehicles. MVM and 100 MVM stand for million and 100 million vehicle miles, respectively.

2. Traffic Accident - an accident involving one or more motor vehicles.

3. Alcohol-involved - an accident in which a DWI citation was issued or in which alcohol was listed as a contributing factor on the accident report.

4. Urban - an area with a population of 2,500 or more.

5. Rural - an area with a population of less than 2,500.

6. Local Resident - a person whose residence is within a 25 mile radius of the accident site.

7. Fatal - designates an accident where one or more persons were killed.

8. Injury - designates an accident where one or more persons were injured. Fatal accidents are not counted again as injury accidents.

9. Property Damage Only - designates an accident involving no injuries or fatalities.

10. Killed - the number of persons killed in an accident, as opposed to the number of accidents in which people were killed. The term fatalities is also used.

11. Injured - the number of persons injured in an accident, as opposed to the number of accidents in which people were injured.

ACCIDENT CLASSES

1. Collision - accidents are broken into categories based on the first object the vehicle collided with.

   a. Fixed Object - fixed objects are any objects that cannot be moved such as a building, sign or fence.

   b. Other Object - an object that is movable or moving, but not fixed.

2. Non-Collision

   a. Overturn - an accident where the vehicle overturned for any reason without a preceding incident.

   b. Other Non-Collision - an accident where the vehicle does not overturn or collide with any other vehicle or object.

1.1 New Mexico Accident Facts, 1983

* 531 people died in 1983 New Mexico traffic accidents (table 1.3)

* Twice as many fatal accidents occurred in July as in February (table 2.1)

* Fridays between 5 and 6 PM is the least safe time to drive in urban areas (table 2.4)

* 79% of New Mexico's accidents happened in urban areas (table 3.1)

* 35% of New Mexico's accidents occurred in Bernalillo County (table 3.2)

* Indian School at Louisiana in Albuquerque is the New Mexico intersection which had the most accidents in 1983 (table 3.7)

* NM 22 in Santa Fe County contained New Mexico's most dangerous stretch of highway (table 3.8)

* 87% of New Mexico's accidents happened in clear weather (table 4.2)

* 58% of New Mexico's fatal accidents happened at night (table 4.3)

* 66% of drivers in accidents were male (table 6.1)

* 65% of drivers in accidents lived within 25 miles of the accident site (table 6.2)

* Out-of-state drivers constituted 6% of accident involvements (table 6.2)

* 8 licensed drivers in 100 were involved in accidents (table 6.4)

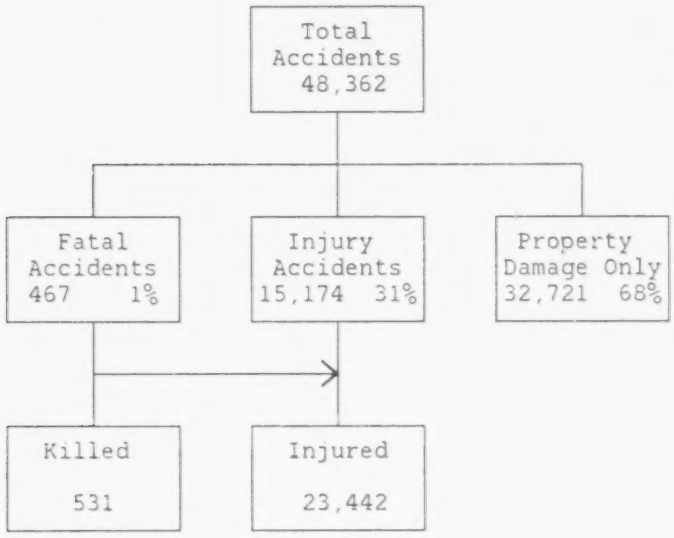
* 686 accidents involved pedestrians (table 8.3)

* 44% of alcohol-involved accidents happen on Friday and Saturday (table 9.4)

* 61 New Mexicans died in motorcycle accidents (table 10.1)

* 84% of those who died in motorcycle accidents wore no helmet (table 10.2)

1.2 New Mexico Accidents by Severity, 1983



In 1983.....

A traffic accident occured every 11 minutes.

One person was injured in traffic every 22 minutes.

One person was killed in traffic every 16 hours.

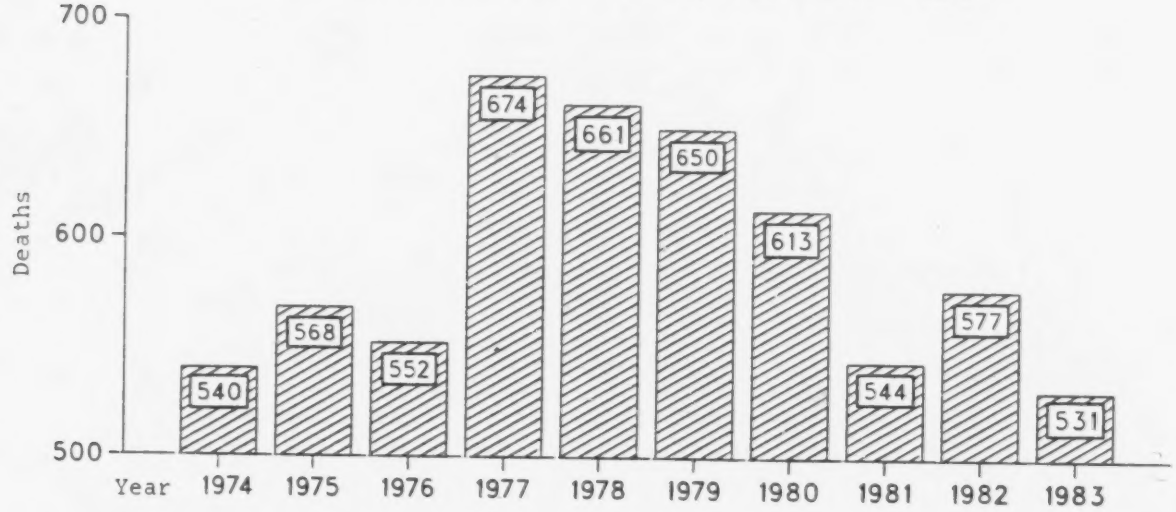
1.3 New Mexico Roadway Statistics, 1974 - 1983

Calendar Year	New Mexico				Death Rate	
	Motor Vehicle Registrations	Mvm traveled	Traffic Fatalities	Traffic Injuries	New Mexico	United States
1983	1,309,151	12,138	531	23,000	4.4	2.7*
1982	1,273,354	11,856	577	23,000	4.9	3.0
1981	1,219,576	11,448	544	23,000	4.7	3.3
1980	1,185,295	11,156	613	23,000	5.5	3.5
1979	1,145,083	11,333	650	24,000	5.7	3.5
1978	1,096,939	11,507	661	24,000	5.6	3.4
1977	1,002,008	11,112	674	21,000	6.1	3.4
1976	976,002	10,524	552	20,000	5.3	3.3
1975	915,852	9,921	568	18,000	5.8	3.4
1974	867,206	9,438	540	16,000	5.7	3.5

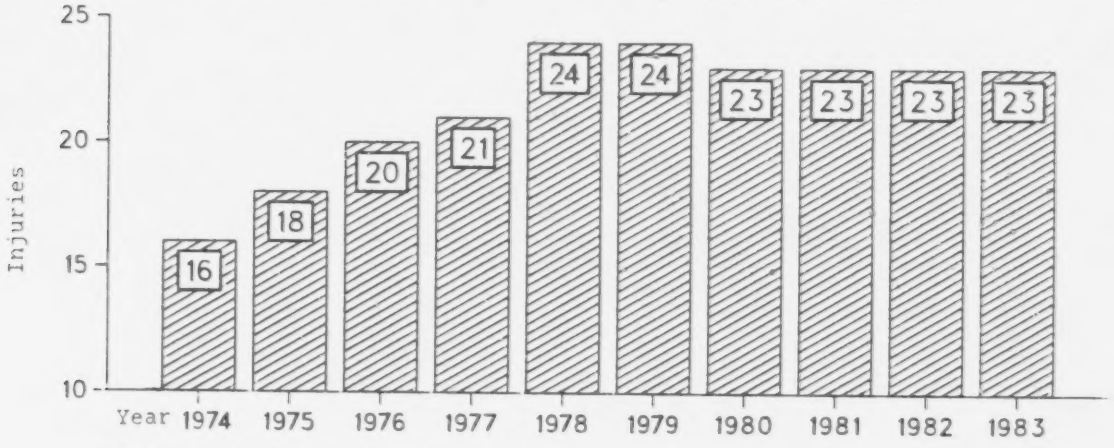
* estimated death rate

1.4 New Mexico and National Death Rates, 1974 - 1983

1.5 New Mexico Accident Deaths by Year, 1974 - 1983

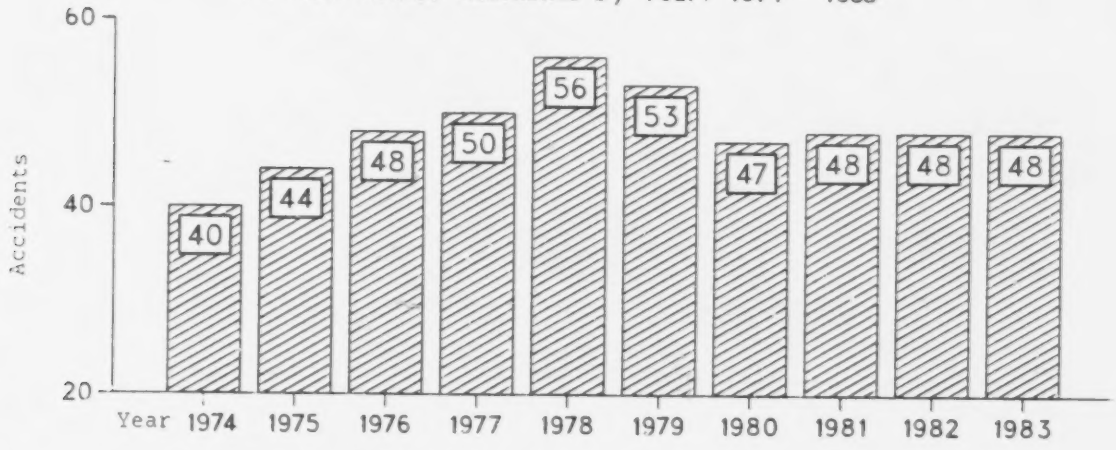


1.6 New Mexico Accident Injuries by Year, 1974 - 1983



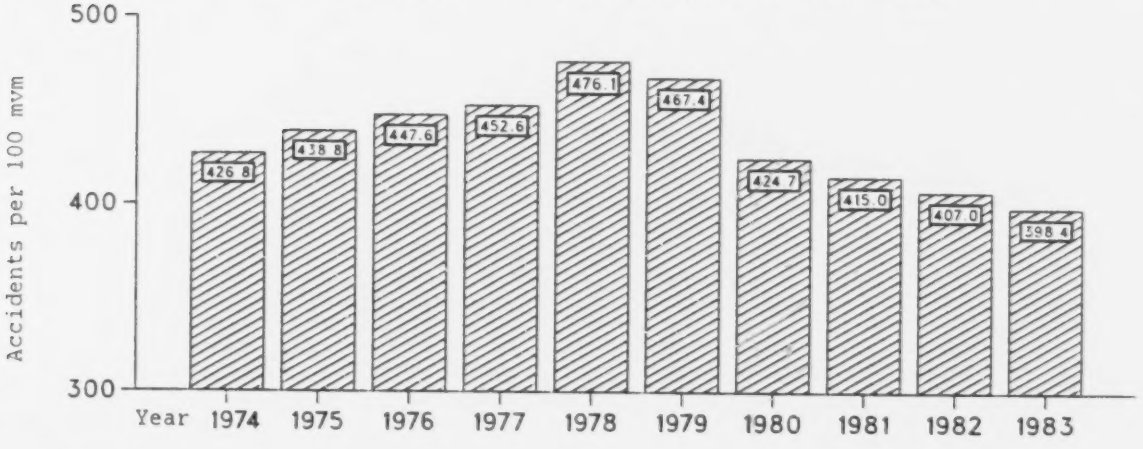
Injury counts are in thousands

1.7 New Mexico Accidents by Year, 1974 - 1983



Accident counts are in thousands

1.8 New Mexico's Accident Rates by Year, 1974 - 1983



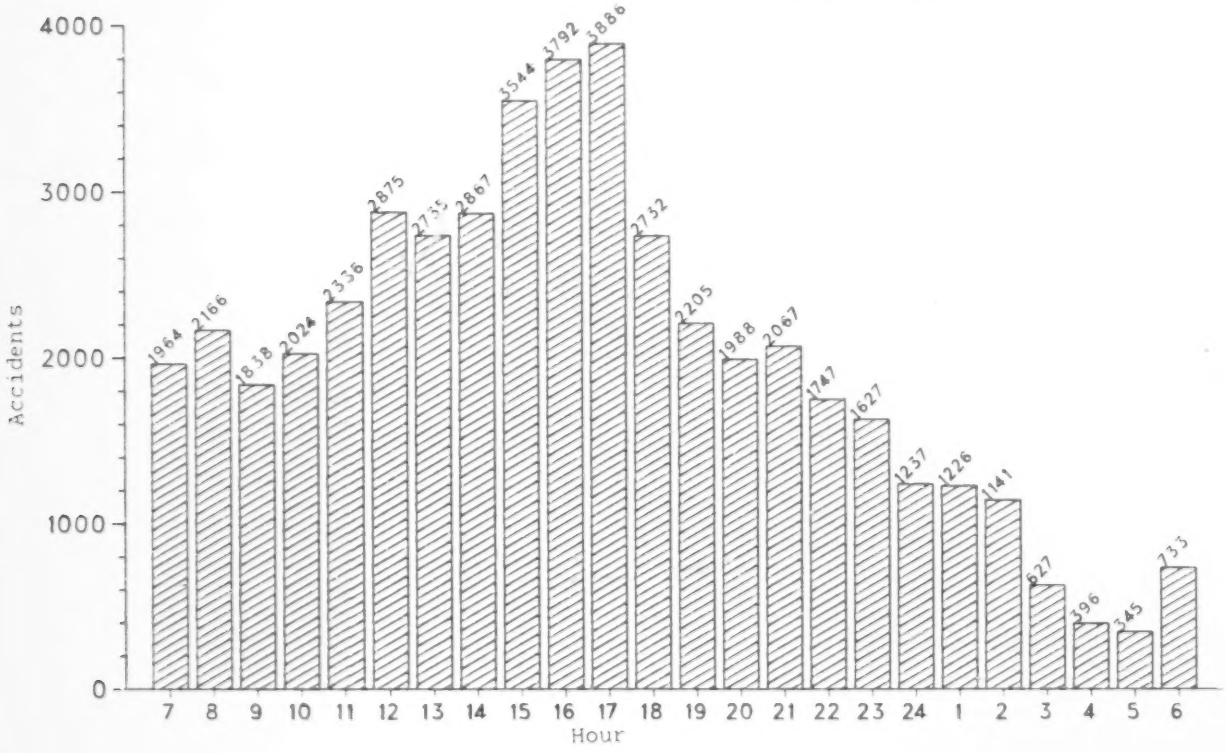
2.1 New Mexico Accidents by Month, 1983

Month	Total	Percent	Fatal	Percent	Total
January	3,926	8.1	26	5.6	
February	3,427	7.1	21	4.5	
March	3,827	7.9	33	7.1	
April	3,985	8.2	39	8.4	
May	4,105	8.5	44	9.4	
June	3,856	8.0	43	9.2	
July	4,179	8.6	42	9.0	
August	4,094	8.5	47	10.1	
September	4,091	8.5	43	9.2	
October	4,206	8.7	44	9.4	
November	4,070	8.4	45	9.6	
December	4,596	9.5	40	8.6	
Total	48,362	100.0	467	100.0	1,600 3,200

2.2 New Mexico Accidents by Day of the Week, 1983

Day	Total	Percent	Fatal	Percent	Total
Sunday	5,386	11.1	79	16.9	
Monday	6,386	13.2	40	8.6	
Tuesday	6,323	13.1	41	8.8	
Wednesday	6,323	13.1	52	11.1	
Thursday	6,744	13.9	57	12.2	
Friday	8,910	18.4	93	19.9	
Saturday	8,290	17.1	105	22.5	
Total	48,362	100.0	467	100.0	3,000 6,000

2.3 New Mexico Accidents by Hour of the Day, 1983



2.4 New Mexico's Seven Least Safe Hours of the Week, 1983

Urban			Rural		
Day and time	Accidents	% of total	Day and time	Accidents	% of total
1. Friday 5 PM	649	1.7	1. Saturday 6 PM	130	1.3
2. Friday 4 PM	640	1.7	2. Friday 8 PM	127	1.2
3. Friday 3 PM	594	1.6	3. Saturday 4 PM	122	1.2
4. Thursday 4 PM	508	1.3	4. Friday 5 PM	120	1.2
5. Thursday 5 PM	483	1.3	5. Saturday 5 PM	120	1.2
6. Friday noon	481	1.3	6. Friday 11 PM	115	1.1
7. Friday 2 PM	478	1.3	7. Saturday 2 AM	113	1.1

2.5 New Mexico Accidents During Holiday Periods, 1980 - 1983

Holiday	Total Hours	Beginning (6 p.m.)	Ending (midnight)	Accidents Total	Fatal	Injury	Persons Killed	Injured
Easter								
1980	54	4/4	4/6	315	5	99	6	173
1981	54	4/17	4/19	314	2	97	2	165
1982	54	4/9	4/11	308	3	107	6	192
1983	54	4/1	4/3	284	6	104	9	172
Memorial Day								
1980	78	5/23	5/26	452	8	158	14	238
1981	78	5/22	5/25	420	6	143	6	253
1982	78	5/21	5/24	479	5	157	5	253
1983	78	5/27	5/30	404	10	142	11	231
July 4th								
1980	78	7/3	7/6	445	12	163	12	264
1981	78	7/2	7/5	440	10	152	10	258
1982	78	7/2	7/5	466	8	164	9	286
1983	78	7/1	7/4	466	6	167	6	297
Labor Day								
1980	78	8/29	9/1	468	8	159	11	267
1981	78	9/4	9/7	449	4	145	4	256
1982	78	9/3	9/6	470	7	162	8	259
1983	78	9/2	9/5	413	5	152	6	240
Thanksgiving								
1980	102	11/26	11/30	500	8	140	8	233
1981	102	11/25	11/29	567	8	172	12	273
1982	102	11/24	11/28	613	5	173	5	289
1983	102	11/23	11/27	535	12	189	13	322
Christmas								
1980	126	12/23	12/28	653	5	202	6	343
1981	126	12/22	12/27	662	6	191	11	320
1982	102	12/23	12/27	709	4	205	6	330
1983	78	12/23	12/26	494	5	182	5	313
New Year's								
1980-1981	126	12/30	1/4/81	669	4	214	4	355
1981-1982	126	12/29	1/3/82	913	8	273	9	472
1982-1983	78	12/30	1/2/83	656	3	167	3	266
1983-1984	78	12/30	1/2/84	-	-	-	2	-

- represents data that were not available at printing time.

2.6 New Mexico Fatalities by Day, 1983

January

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1: 1
2	3: 2	4: 1	5: 3	6	7	8: 1
9: 1	10: 1	11	12	13	14	15: 3
16: 1	17	18: 1	19: 2	20: 1	21	22: 3
23	24	25: 1	26	27: 1	28	29: 1
30: 1	31: 1					

February

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1: 3	2	3	4: 1	5: 3
6: 2	7	8	9	10	11: 4	12
13: 1	14	15: 1	16	17	18: 2	19: 4
20	21: 1	22: 3	23	24: 1	25: 1	26
27: 1	28: 1					

March

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1: 1	2	3	4: 1	5: 1
6: 3	7: 1	8: 1	9	10: 1	11: 2	12
13: 2	14	15: 1	16: 2	17	18: 1	19: 3
20: 2	21	22	23: 1	24	25: 2	26: 2
27	28: 4	29	30: 6	31: 2		

April

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1: 7	2: 1
3: 1	4: 2	5: 2	6: 2	7: 4	8: 3	9: 1
10	11: 1	12	13	14	15	16: 5
17: 1	18	19	20	21	22: 2	23: 3
24: 1	25: 2	26: 1	27	28: 2	29: 3	30: 2

May

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1: 1	2	3	4: 2	5	6: 3	7: 4
8: 2	9	10: 2	11	12	13: 2	14: 3
15: 4	16: 3	17	18	19: 3	20: 1	21: 4
22: 1	23	24: 1	25: 2	26	27: 2	28: 4
29: 3	30: 2	31: 1				

June

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1: 1	2: 3	3: 3	4: 2
5: 2	6: 1	7	8: 1	9: 1	10: 3	11: 2
12: 3	13: 1	14: 1	15: 4	16	17: 2	18: 1
19: 4	20: 1	21	22	23	24: 3	25: 1
26: 2	27: 2	28: 1	29: 1	30		

July

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2: 2
3: 2	4: 2	5	6: 2	7	8: 5	9
10: 2	11	12: 1	13: 2	14: 1	15: 6	16: 1
17: 4	18	19	20: 4	21: 2	22: 2	23: 2
24: 3	25	26	27	28: 1	29: 2	30: 3
31: 1						

August

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1: 4	2	3: 1	4: 1	5: 4	6: 3
7: 2	8: 1	9	10	11: 1	12: 3	13: 4
14: 2	15: 2	16	17: 2	18: 2	19: 1	20: 7
21: 4	22: 1	23: 2	24	25: 2	26	27: 4
28: 1	29	30	31			

September

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1: 2	2: 2	3: 5
4	5	6: 2	7: 2	8: 2	9: 6	10: 2
11: 3	12	13	14	15	16: 1	17: 1
18: 2	19: 2	20: 1	21	22: 2	23: 3	24: 3
25	26: 1	27	28: 2	29: 3	30: 2	

October

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1: 2
2: 5	3	4	5	6	7: 3	8: 4
9: 1	10	11: 1	12: 1	13: 1	14: 2	15
16: 2	17: 1	18: 4	19: 3	20: 1	21	22: 6
23: 2	24	25: 2	26	27: 1	28: 1	29: 2
30: 1	31					

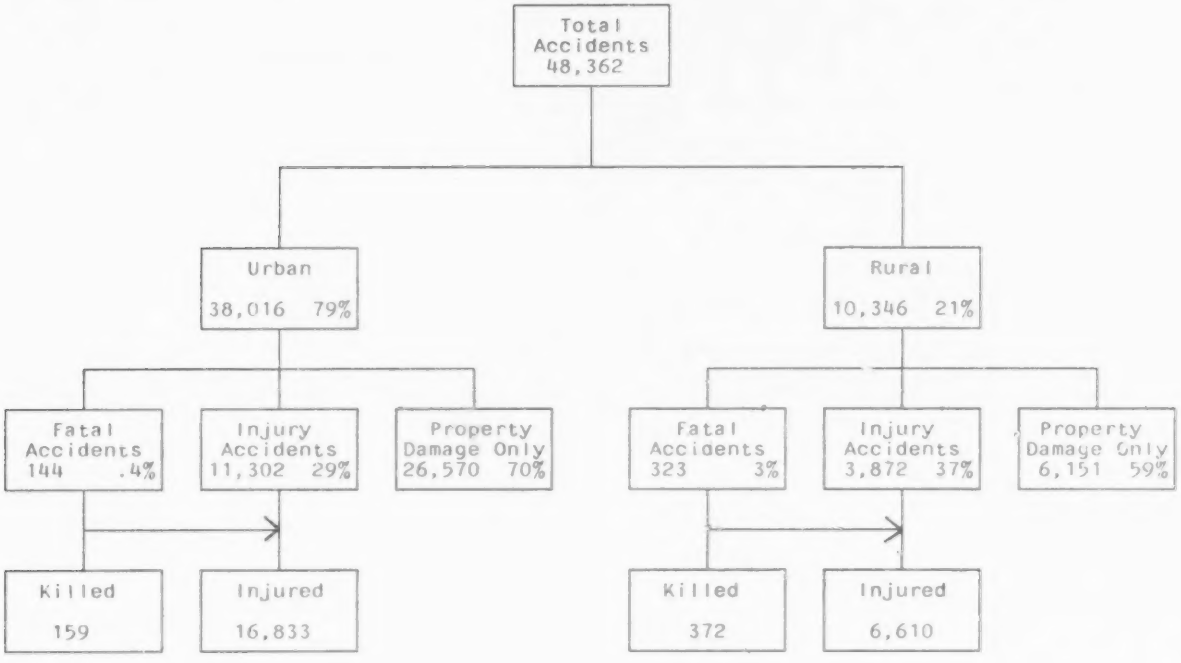
November

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2: 1	3: 7	4: 1	5: 3
6: 3	7	8: 2	9	10: 1	11: 2	12: 3
13: 1	14: 2	15: 1	16: 2	17: 2	18: 1	19: 3
20	21	22	23: 2	24: 1	25: 1	26: 2
27: 4	28	29: 2	30			

December

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1: 4	2: 1	3
4: 2	5: 1	6: 1	7: 1	8: 2	9: 2	10
11: 3	12	13: 1	14: 2	15: 2	16: 2	17
18	19: 3	20: 4	21: 3	22: 3	23: 1	24: 2
25: 2	26	27	28: 1	29: 1	30	31: 2

3.1 New Mexico Accidents by Road System, 1983



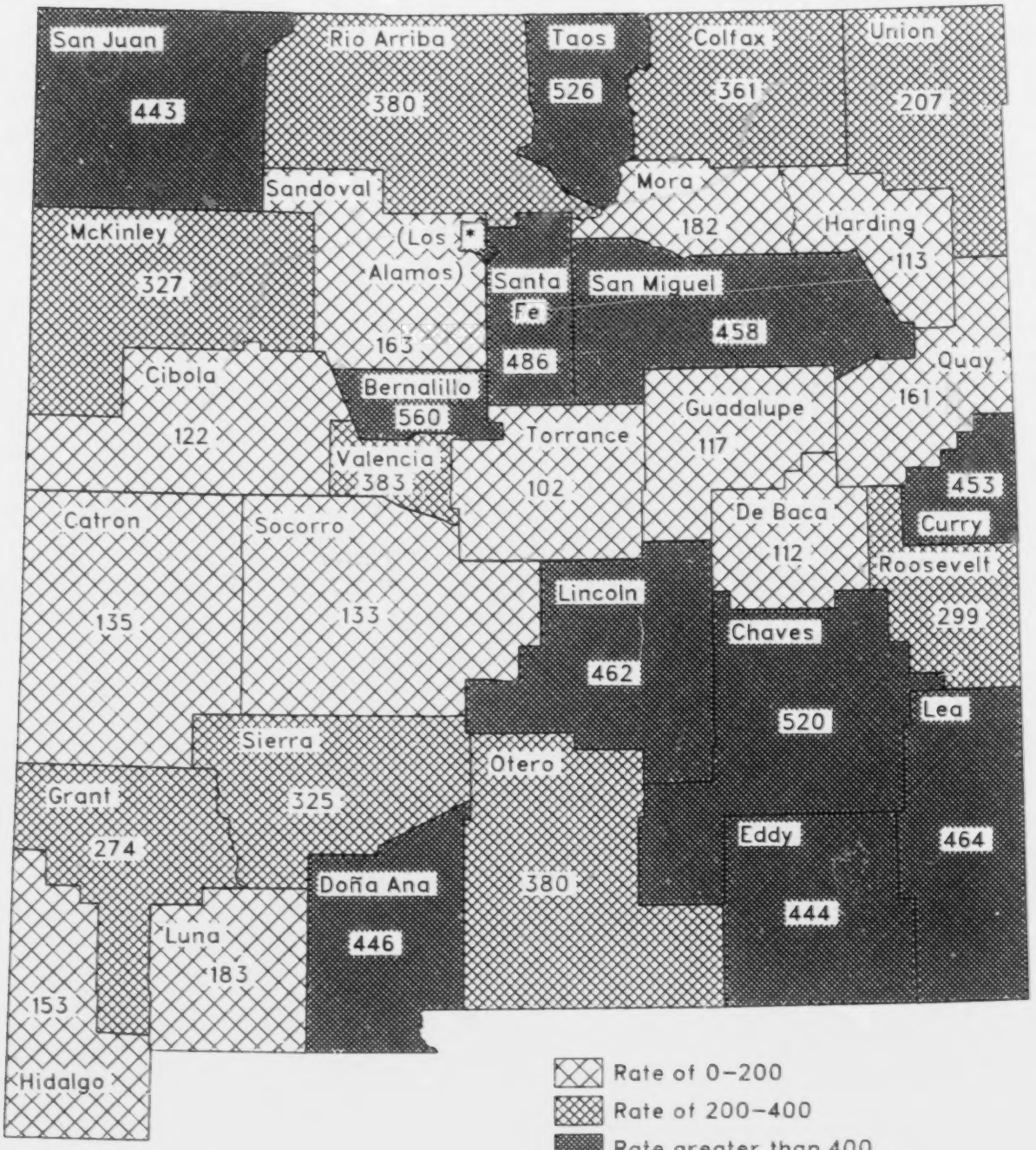
3.2 New Mexico Accidents by County, 1983

County	Accidents				People		Rates		
	Total	Fatal	Injury	Property damage	Killed	Injured	Accident rate	Death rate	100 Mvm
Bernalillo	16,886	67	5,759	11,060	74	8,644	559.88	2.45	30.16
Catron	74	3	27	44	5	42	134.55	9.09	0.55
Chaves	2,097	18	721	1,358	23	1,096	520.35	5.71	4.03
Cibola	613	15	190	408	16	326	121.63	3.17	5.04
Colfax	617	10	153	454	10	245	360.82	5.85	1.71
Curry	1,245	11	262	972	11	387	452.73	4.00	2.75
De Baca	73	2	24	47	2	38	112.31	3.08	0.65
Dona Ana	3,485	29	1,076	2,380	32	1,660	445.65	4.09	7.82
Eddy	1,633	15	477	1,141	18	686	443.75	4.89	3.68
Grant	730	6	168	556	6	242	274.44	2.26	2.66
Guadalupe	305	15	104	186	19	171	116.86	7.28	2.61
Harding	17	0	7	10	0	8	113.33	0.00	0.15
Hidalgo	190	2	60	128	2	98	153.23	1.61	1.24
Lea	2,259	16	704	1,539	17	1,037	463.86	3.49	4.87
Lincoln	822	14	239	569	16	355	461.80	8.99	1.78
Los Alamos	408	3	91	314	3	117	443.48	3.26	0.92
Luna	466	5	142	319	5	231	182.75	1.96	2.55
McKinley	2,102	40	536	1,526	45	976	326.91	7.00	6.43
Mora	109	3	37	69	3	59	181.67	5.00	0.60
Otero	1,459	11	419	1,029	12	622	379.95	3.13	3.84
Quay	447	9	164	274	11	266	161.37	3.97	2.77
Rio Arriba	1,010	16	358	636	21	570	379.70	7.89	2.66
Roosevelt	506	3	106	397	4	163	299.41	2.37	1.69
Sandoval	588	12	222	354	12	350	163.33	3.33	3.60
San Juan	3,142	50	902	2,190	64	1,532	443.16	9.03	7.09
San Miguel	889	5	191	693	5	287	458.25	2.58	1.94
Santa Fe	3,375	36	1,190	2,149	37	1,901	485.61	5.32	6.95
Sierra	351	6	99	246	7	136	325.00	6.48	1.08
Socorro	325	13	110	202	14	195	132.65	5.71	2.45
Taos	905	8	229	668	8	345	526.16	4.65	1.72
Torrance	244	7	83	154	8	142	101.67	3.33	2.40
Union	182	3	56	123	5	100	206.82	5.68	0.88
Valencia	808	14	268	526	16	415	382.94	7.58	2.11
Total	48,362	467	15,174	32,721	531	23,442	398.43	4.37	121.38

3.3 New Mexico Accidents in Pueblos and Reservations, 1983

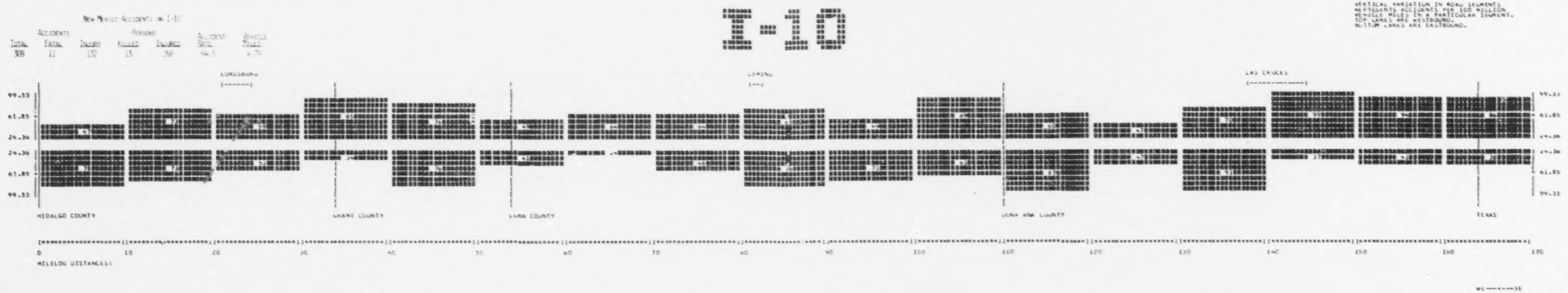
Pueblo or Reservation	Accidents				Persons	
	Total	Fatal	Injury	Property Damage	Killed	Injured
Acoma	40	3	16	21	3	34
Alamo Navajo	1	1	0	0	1	0
Cochiti	2	0	2	0	0	2
Isleta	33	2	18	13	2	30
Jemez	7	1	3	3	1	6
Jicarilla Apache	47	2	15	30	2	28
Laguna	148	5	47	96	5	82
Mescalero Apache	93	2	38	53	2	76
Nambe	8	1	4	3	1	12
Navajo	256	19	104	133	20	215
Picuris	20	1	9	10	1	13
Pojoaque	87	2	31	54	2	55
Ramah Navajo	5	0	4	1	0	7
Sandia	13	0	6	7	0	9
San Felipe	24	1	9	14	1	18
San Ildefonso	27	3	9	15	4	21
San Juan	57	2	23	32	3	41
Santa Ana	14	0	8	6	0	12
Santa Clara	47	1	19	27	1	39
Santo Domingo	19	2	8	9	2	10
Taos Pueblo	2	0	1	1	0	4
Tesuque	42	3	17	22	3	28
Zia	14	0	5	9	0	16
Zuni	43	1	20	22	2	36

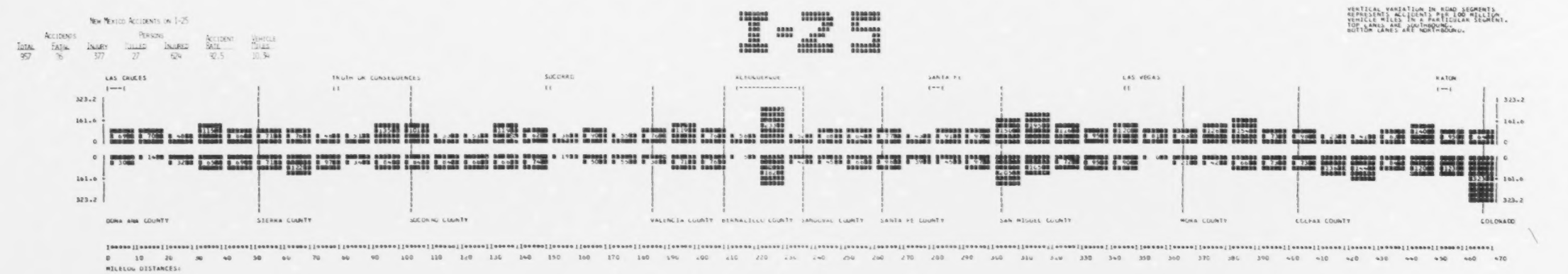
3.4 New Mexico Accident Rates by County, 1983

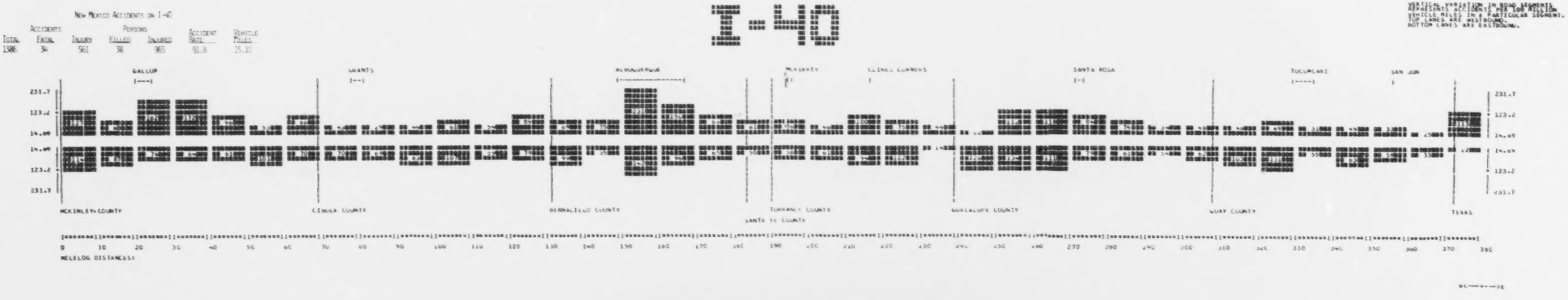


* Los Alamos rate is 443

3.5 New Mexico Interstate Highway Accident Rates, 1983







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3.6 New Mexico Accidents by City, 1983

City	Accidents				Persons	
	Total	Fatal	Injury	Property Damage	Killed	Injured
Alamogordo	929	1	220	708	1	295
Albuquerque	16,524	58	5,603	10,863	65	8,395
Anthony	15	0	8	7	0	11
Artesia	471	3	123	345	3	168
Aztec	166	0	39	127	0	58
Bayard	47	0	5	42	0	6
Belen	286	1	64	221	1	89
Bernalillo	18	1	4	13	1	9
Bloomfield	107	0	19	88	0	25
Bosque Farms	54	1	20	33	2	35
Capitan	11	0	2	9	0	3
Carlsbad	852	2	242	608	2	339
Carrizozo	20	0	2	18	0	2
Central	23	0	5	18	0	6
Chama	31	0	4	27	0	6
Cimarron	12	0	3	9	0	4
Clayton	100	1	14	85	3	18
Cloudcroft	29	0	7	22	0	10
Clovis	1,099	2	211	886	2	298
Columbus	4	0	3	1	0	3
Corona	2	0	0	2	0	0
Corrales	66	0	24	42	0	33
Cuba	21	0	4	17	0	7
Deming	286	3	50	233	3	67
Des Moines	4	0	1	3	0	4
Dexter	6	0	0	6	0	0
Dora	2	0	1	1	0	1
Eagle Nest	7	0	3	4	0	4
Elida	2	0	0	2	0	0
Espanola	492	2	190	300	5	282
Estancia	2	0	0	2	0	0
Eunice	52	0	10	42	0	17
Farmington	1,816	9	505	1,302	10	844
Floyd	1	0	1	0	0	1
Fort Sumner	26	0	6	20	0	9
Gallup	1,273	6	217	1,050	6	343
Grants	273	1	66	206	1	102
Hagerman	14	0	1	13	0	2
Hatch	26	0	5	21	0	5
Hobbs	1,380	6	443	931	6	653
Hope	1	0	0	1	0	0
Hurley	14	0	2	12	0	2
Jal	36	0	10	26	0	12
Jemez Springs	8	0	3	5	0	5
Lake Arthur	1	0	0	1	0	0

3.6 New Mexico Accidents by City, 1983

City	Accidents				Persons	
	Total	Fatal	Injury	Property Damage	Killed	Injured
La Mesilla	45	1	9	35	1	12
Las Cruces	2,452	7	710	1,735	7	1,050
Las Vegas	671	1	111	559	1	157
Logan	15	0	6	9	0	11
Lordsburg	85	0	20	65	0	26
Los Alamos	406	3	91	312	3	117
Los Lunas	118	2	52	64	2	75
Loving	1	0	0	1	0	0
Lovington	382	3	89	290	3	118
Magdalena	3	1	2	0	1	2
Maxwell	3	0	0	3	0	0
Melrose	7	1	2	4	1	6
Milan	49	0	15	34	0	24
Moriarty	8	0	2	6	0	4
Mosquero	3	0	2	1	0	2
Mountainair	15	0	4	11	0	4
Pecos	9	0	2	7	0	3
Portales	396	1	69	326	2	98
Questa	43	1	8	34	1	16
Raton	342	3	47	292	3	69
Red River	29	0	9	20	0	10
Reserve	1	0	1	0	0	3
Rio Rancho	185	1	55	129	1	69
Roswell	1,664	3	562	1,099	3	833
Roy	1	0	0	1	0	0
Ruidoso	479	0	139	340	0	207
Ruidoso Downs	28	0	6	22	0	7
San Jon	2	0	0	2	0	0
San Ysidro	7	2	2	3	2	4
Santa Fe	2,308	8	778	1,522	8	1,201
Santa Rosa	90	2	17	71	2	27
Shiprock	109	3	36	70	3	61
Silver City	396	0	74	322	0	96
Socorro	117	0	20	97	0	30
Springer	13	0	1	12	0	1
Taos	363	0	80	283	0	111
Tatum	19	0	3	16	0	5
Texico	19	0	3	16	0	6
Tijeras	5	1	1	3	1	1
Truth or Consequences	172	1	37	134	1	45
Tucumcari	273	2	80	191	2	126
Tularosa	54	0	12	42	0	16
Vaughn	14	0	3	11	0	4
Wagon Mound	2	0	1	1	0	2
Williamsburg	4	0	1	3	0	1

3.7 New Mexico's Seven Least Safe Intersections, 1983

Intersection	City	Accidents		
		Total	Fatal	Injury
1. Indian School at Louisiana	Albuquerque	90	0	24
2. Montgomery at San Mateo	Albuquerque	89	0	24
3. Montgomery at I-25 East Frontage Rd	Albuquerque	87	0	32
4. Montgomery at Wyoming	Albuquerque	86	0	34
5. Central at Rio Grande	Albuquerque	69	0	26
6. Butler at Main	Farmington	69	0	17
7. Juan Tabo at Lomas	Albuquerque	67	0	28

New Mexico intersections with 30 or more accidents in three years were ranked by the total number of accidents in October, 1982, through September, 1983. Naturally, the busiest intersections also tend to have the most accidents.

3.8 New Mexico's Seven Least Safe Rural Highway Segments, 1983

Highway	Mile	County	Accidents				Acc rate	Thousand vehicle miles
			Total	Fatal	Injury	Alcohol		
1. NM22	20 to 30	Santa Fe	40	1	16	9	1229.4	3,254
2. NM76	0 to 10	Santa Fe	113	1	45	35	785.8	14,380
3. NM273	0 to 10	Dona Ana	28	0	12	5	537.1	5,213
4. NM52	0 to 10	Sierra	21	1	11	10	530.4	3,959
5. NM3	20 to 30	Mora	32	1	11	10	496.4	6,446
6. US64	0 to 10	Taos	30	0	10	3	488.5	6,141
7. US64	70 to 80	Rio Arriba	17	0	10	3	448.7	3,789

(Rate is accidents per 100 million vehicle miles)

This highway segment ranking was done on the basis of rates (accidents per 100 million vehicle miles) and therefore does not necessarily correspond to the most heavily traveled segments. Accident counts are for January through December, 1983.

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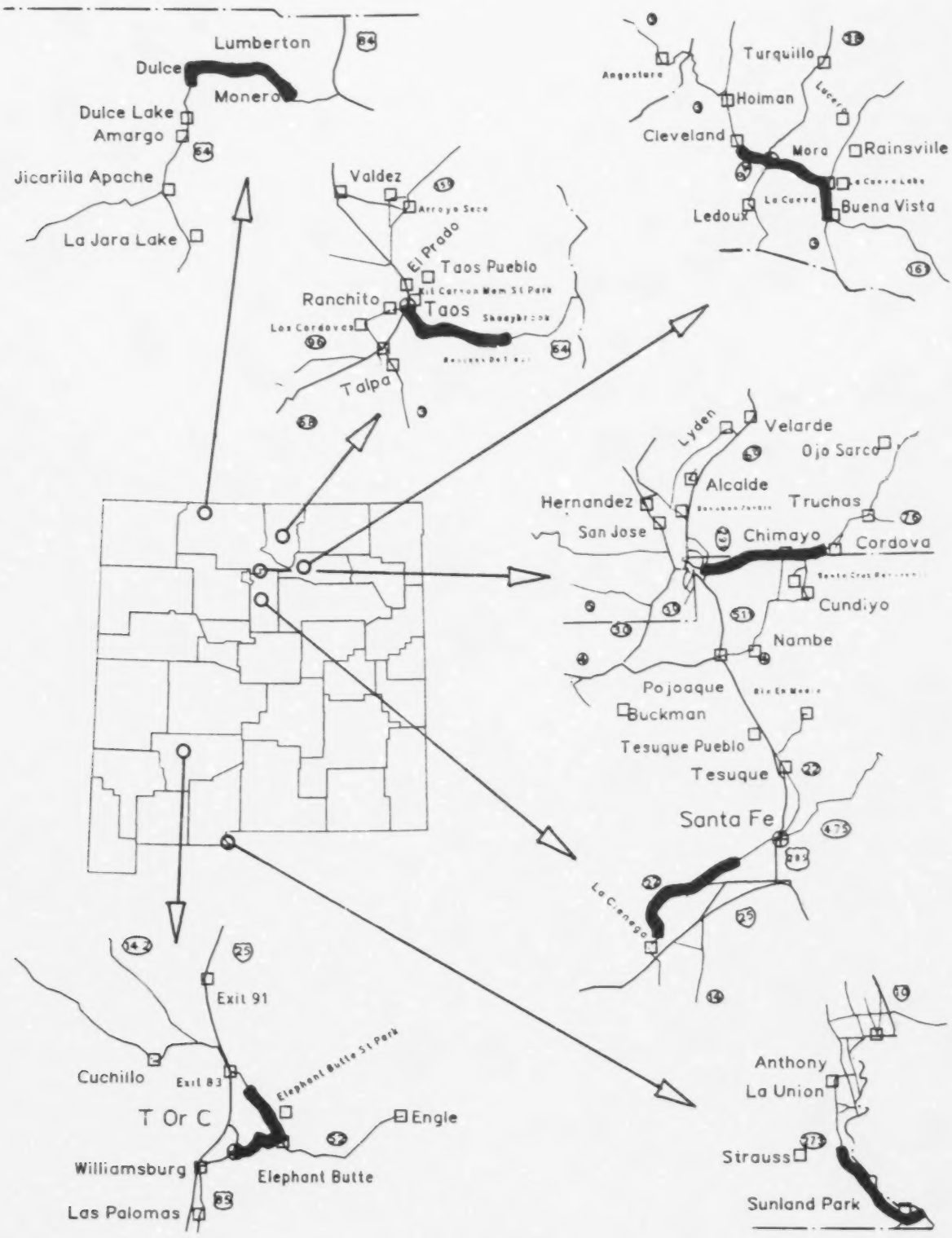
3.9 Map of New Mexico's Least Safe Highway Segments, 1983



4.1 New Mexico Accidents by Class, 1983

Class	Accidents					Persons	
	Total	% of Total	Fatal	% of Fatal	Injury	Killed	Injured
Other vehicle	30,203	62.45	140	29.98	9,544	178	15,806
Pedestrian	686	1.42	111	23.77	553	114	613
Fixed object	6,633	13.72	54	11.56	1,797	59	2,359
Veh. on other road	19	0.04	0	0	9	0	12
Parked vehicle	4,948	10.23	10	2.14	496	10	642
Overturn	3,535	7.31	137	29.34	1,896	153	2,998
Other non-collision	893	1.85	4	0.86	351	5	413
Pedalcyclist	428	0.88	6	1.28	360	6	380
Railroad train	12	0.02	1	0.21	5	1	6
Animal	758	1.57	4	0.86	107	5	140
Other object	247	0.51	0	0	56	0	73
Total	48,362	100	467	100	15,174	531	23,442

4.2 New Mexico Accidents by Weather, 1983

Weather Condition	Accidents				Persons	
	Total	Fatal	Injury	Property damage	Killed	Injured
Clear	42,108	418	13,392	28,298	477	20,650
Rain	2,812	22	873	1,917	24	1,381
Snow,Sleet	2,149	11	523	1,615	13	810
Fog	164	2	56	106	2	72
Dust,Wind	656	10	187	459	11	307
Other	406	4	124	278	4	192
Total	48,295	467	15,155	32,673	531	23,412

4.3 New Mexico Accidents by Lighting, 1983

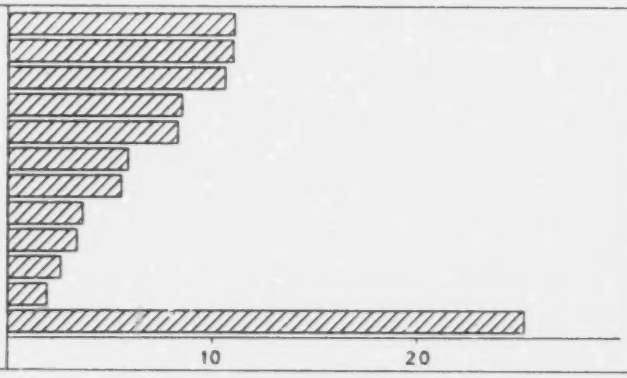
Light Condition	Accidents				Persons	
	Total	Fatal	Injury	Property damage	Killed	Injured
Daylight	31,247	176	9,389	21,682	201	14,372
Dawn	367	8	128	231	8	194
Dusk	1,470	13	493	964	15	731
Dark,lighted	8,243	62	2,694	5,487	67	4,149
Dark,unlighted	6,863	208	2,438	4,217	240	3,953
Other,unknown	169	0	30	139	0	40
Total	48,359	467	15,172	32,720	531	23,439

4.4 New Mexico Fixed Object Accidents, 1983

Object	Accidents			Persons	
	Total	Fatal	Injury	Killed	Injured
Barricade	31	0	9	0	13
Bridge or pier	64	2	20	2	28
Building	184	1	51	1	65
Cattle guard	27	0	10	0	13
Culvert or drain	171	4	80	5	112
Embankment	359	5	167	5	241
Fence	1,665	6	289	6	367
Guard rail or post	548	9	203	10	286
Median or curb	515	4	140	4	172
Sign, pole, meter, hydrant	1,714	7	445	7	541
Tree	365	8	147	9	211
Other or unknown	990	8	236	10	310
Total	6,633	54	1,797	59	2,359

4.5 New Mexico Accident Contributing Factors, 1983

Contributing factor	Percent of involvements
Driver inattention	11.1
Failure to yield	11.0
Excessive speed	10.6
Alcohol involved	8.5
Other improper driving	8.3
Follow too close	5.9
Improper turn	5.6
Disregard traffic control	3.7
Drove left of center	3.4
Mechanical defects	2.6
Improper overtaking	1.9
Other	25.3

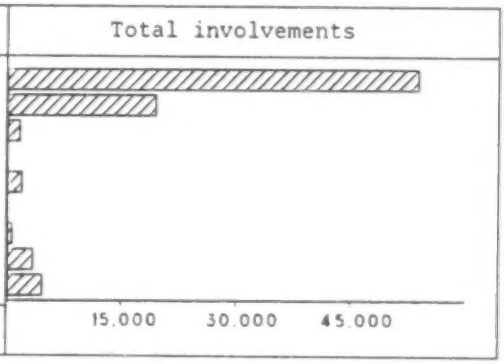


4.6 New Mexico Accidents Involving Vehicle or Road Defects, 1978 - 1983

Year	All accidents	Vehicle defects	Road defects	% with vehicle defects	% with road defects
1983	48,362	2,160	413	4.5	0.9
1982	48,250	2,092	470	4.3	1.0
1981	47,505	2,313	418	4.9	0.9
1980	47,407	2,063	386	4.4	0.8
1979	52,906	2,400	513	4.5	1.0
1978	55,738	2,529	1,254	4.5	2.2

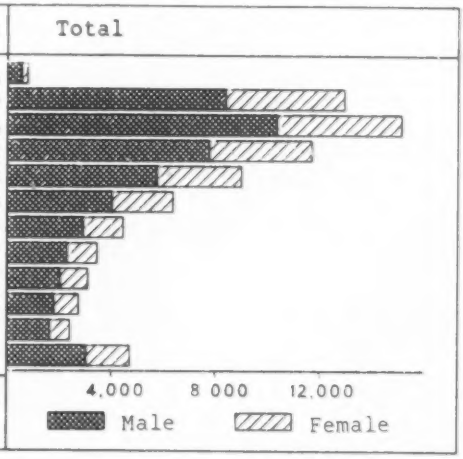
5.1 New Mexico Accident Involvements by Vehicle Type, 1983

Vehicle type	Total	Fatal	Injury
Passenger car	54,291	292	16,986
Pickup	19,856	167	5,589
Semi	1,764	62	526
Bus	438	2	97
Motorcycle	2,103	59	1,703
Pedalcyclist	443	6	377
Pedestrian	742	115	601
Van or 4WD	3,716	31	1,133
Other	4,264	34	759
Total	87,617	768	27,771



6.1 New Mexico Accident Driver Age and Sex, 1983

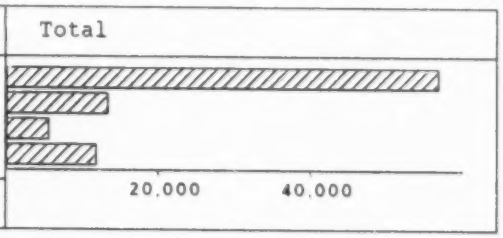
Age	Total	Male	Female
Under 15	772	546	226
15-19	12,967	8,407	4,560
20-24	15,157	10,363	4,794
25-29	11,706	7,766	3,940
30-34	9,005	5,757	3,248
35-39	6,369	4,021	2,348
40-44	4,456	2,926	1,530
45-49	3,460	2,295	1,165
50-54	3,100	2,037	1,063
55-59	2,748	1,805	943
60-64	2,405	1,628	777
65 and over	4,711	3,042	1,669
Total	76,856	50,593	26,263



Note that 18 percent of New Mexico accidents involved teenagers, although teenagers comprise only 9 percent of New Mexico's drivers.

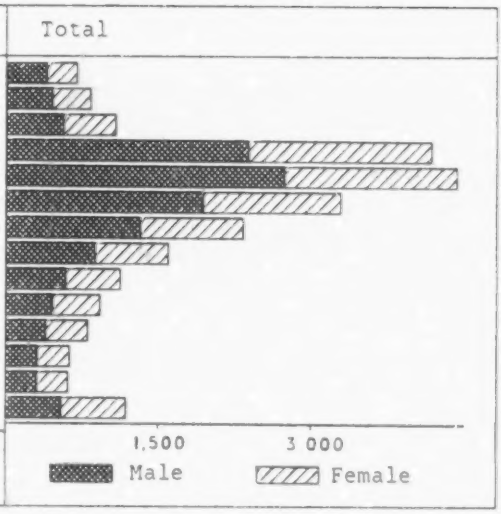
6.2 New Mexico Accident Driver Residence, 1983

Residence	Total	Fatal	Injury
Local	56,799	76	18,863
Elsewhere in NM	13,361	399	4,698
Outside NM	5,626	123	1,924
Unknown	11,831	170	2,286
Total	87,617	768	27,771



6.3 New Mexico Accident Occupant Age and Sex, 1983

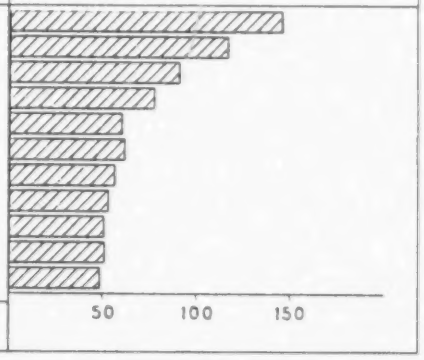
Age	Total	Male	Female
0-4	690	395	295
5-9	824	449	375
10-14	1,071	560	511
15-19	4,177	2,375	1,802
20-24	4,424	2,731	1,693
25-29	3,282	1,931	1,351
30-34	2,326	1,317	1,009
35-39	1,594	877	717
40-44	1,124	587	537
45-49	924	460	464
50-54	806	391	415
55-59	628	310	318
60-64	612	304	308
65 and over	1,183	546	637
Total	23,665	13,233	10,432



These are counts of persons killed or injured in accidents.

6.4 New Mexico Accident Involvement Rates, 1983

Age	Driver involvements	July 83 drivers	Inv. per 1,000 drivers
15-19	12,967	85,466	151.72
20-24	15,157	130,538	116.11
25-29	11,706	131,770	88.84
30-34	9,005	120,245	74.89
35-39	6,369	97,526	65.31
40-44	4,456	75,266	59.20
45-49	3,460	63,188	54.76
50-54	3,100	58,711	52.80
55-59	2,748	54,880	50.07
60-64	2,405	48,478	49.61
Over 64	4,711	90,432	52.09
Total	76,084	956,500	79.54



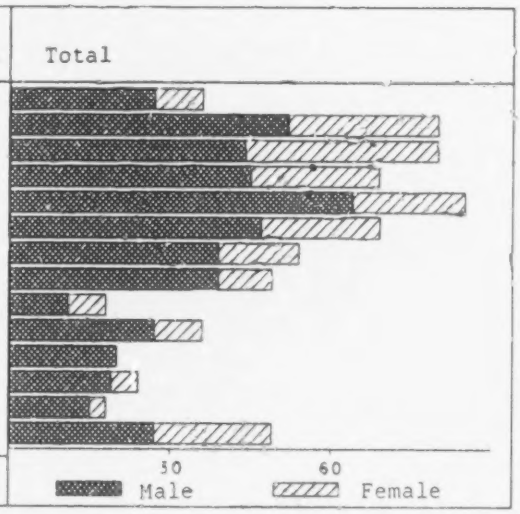
7.1 New Mexico Accident Seatbelt Usage and Injuries, 1983

Injury	Belt Worn Number	Belt Worn Percent	Belt not worn Number	Belt not worn Percent	Total Number	Total Percent
Killed	10	0.2	283	0.8	293	0.7
Incapacitating injury	198	4.0	2,810	8.2	3,008	7.6
Visible injury	584	11.9	5,966	17.3	6,550	16.6
Complaint of injury	1,371	27.9	8,491	24.6	9,862	25.0
Unhurt	2,751	56.0	16,906	49.1	19,657	49.9
Total	4,914	100.0	34,456	100.0	39,370	100.0

These are counts of occupants of passenger cars, pickups, vans or four wheel drive vehicles in fatal and injury accidents. On the basis of the above percent of seatbelt wearers killed, it is estimated that 213 lives would have been saved if all persons had been wearing seatbelts.

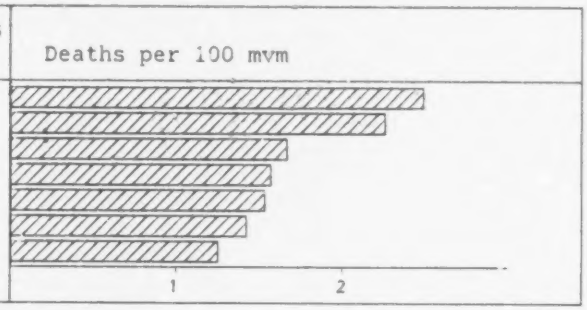
8.1 New Mexico Pedestrians in Accidents, 1983

Age	Total Killed	Total Inj.	Male Killed	Male Inj.	Female Killed	Female Inj.
0-4	3	33	3	24	0	9
5-9	3	77	3	49	0	28
10-14	5	75	3	41	2	34
15-19	6	63	6	39	0	24
20-24	20	65	19	45	1	20
25-29	10	59	8	39	2	20
30-34	13	41	10	29	3	12
35-39	13	36	11	28	2	8
40-44	2	16	2	9	0	7
45-49	7	29	6	21	1	8
50-54	5	15	5	15	0	0
55-59	5	19	5	14	0	5
60-64	5	13	5	10	0	3
Over 64	13	36	7	20	6	16
Total	110	577	93	383	17	194

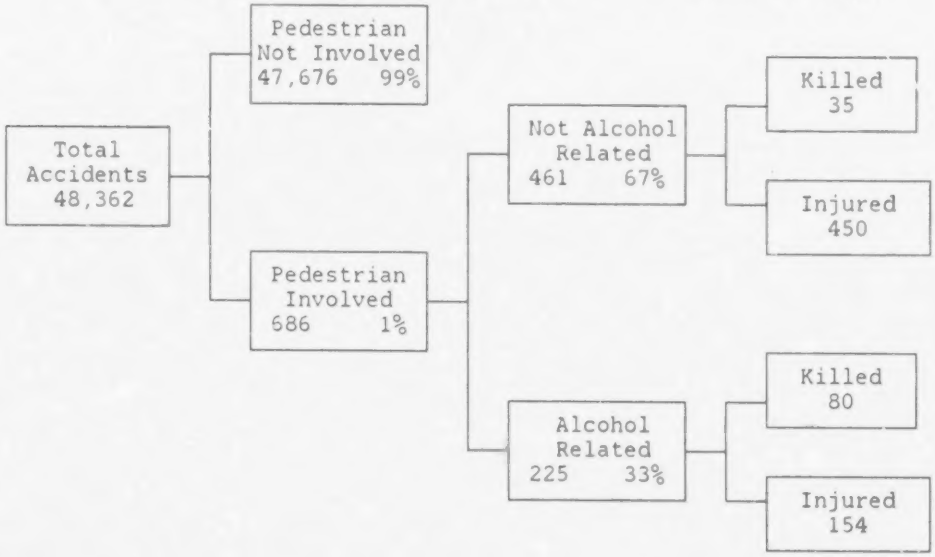


8.2 Seven Worst Counties by Pedestrian Death Rate, 1983

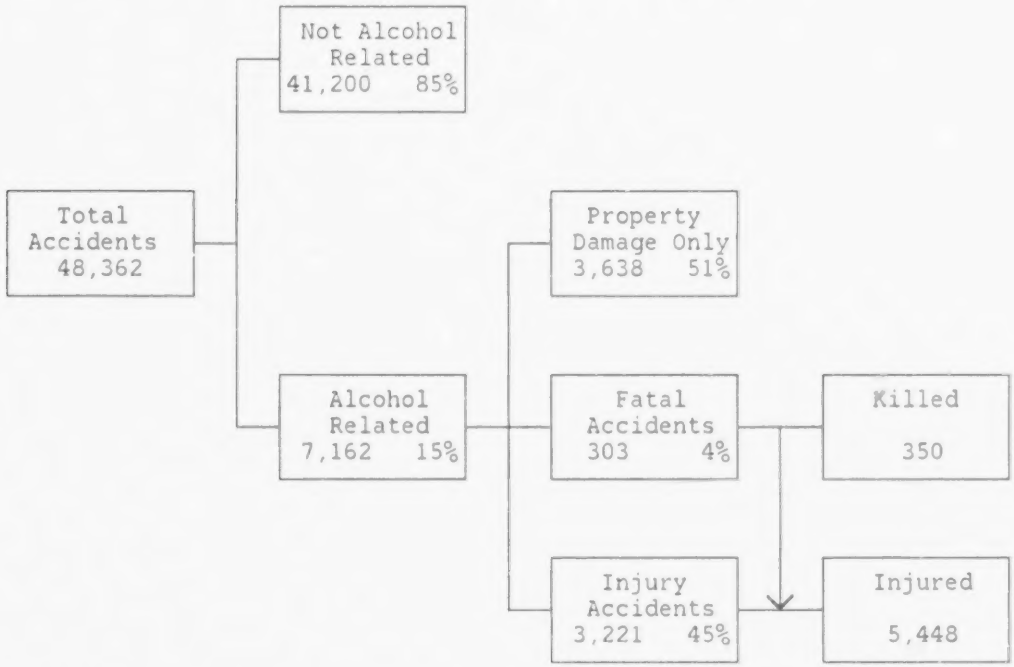
County	Pedestrians in accidents Total	Killed	Injured
1. McKinley	71	16	51
2. San Juan	70	16	50
3. Mora	1	1	0
4. Luna	6	4	2
5. Guadalupe	4	4	0
6. Valencia	14	3	10
7. Torrance	3	3	0



8.3 New Mexico Alcohol-involved Pedestrian Accidents, 1983



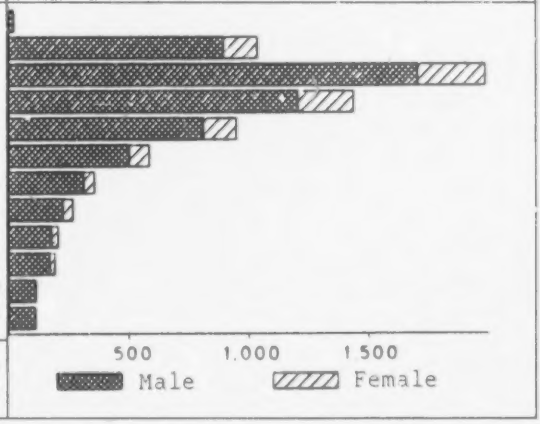
9.1 New Mexico Accidents by Alcohol Involvement, 1983



In this and similar tables, injury counts include persons injured in fatal accidents.

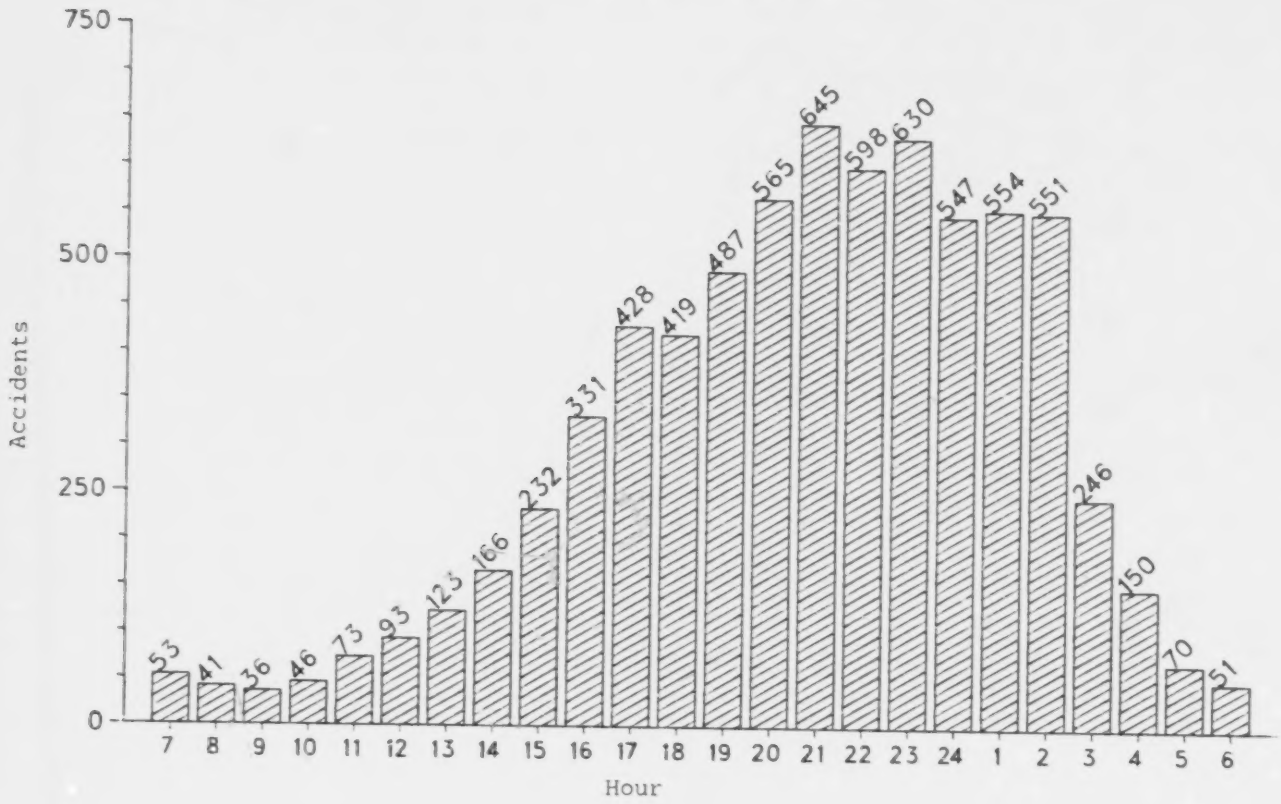
9.2 New Mexico Alcohol-involved Drivers in Accidents by Age and Sex, 1983

Age	Total	Male	Female
Under 15	29	22	7
15-19	1,036	895	141
20-24	1,986	1,705	281
25-29	1,436	1,205	231
30-34	948	811	137
35-39	585	502	83
40-44	357	314	43
45-49	268	227	41
50-54	206	179	27
55-59	193	171	22
60-64	124	114	10
Over 64	125	112	13
Total	7,293	6,257	1,036
Under 21	1,459	1,263	196



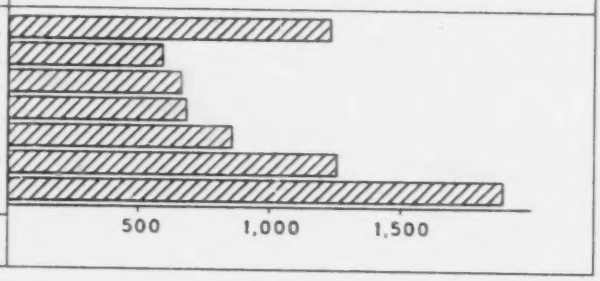
20% of the alcohol-involved drivers were under 21 years of age.

9.3 New Mexico Alcohol-involved Accidents by Hour of the Day, 1983



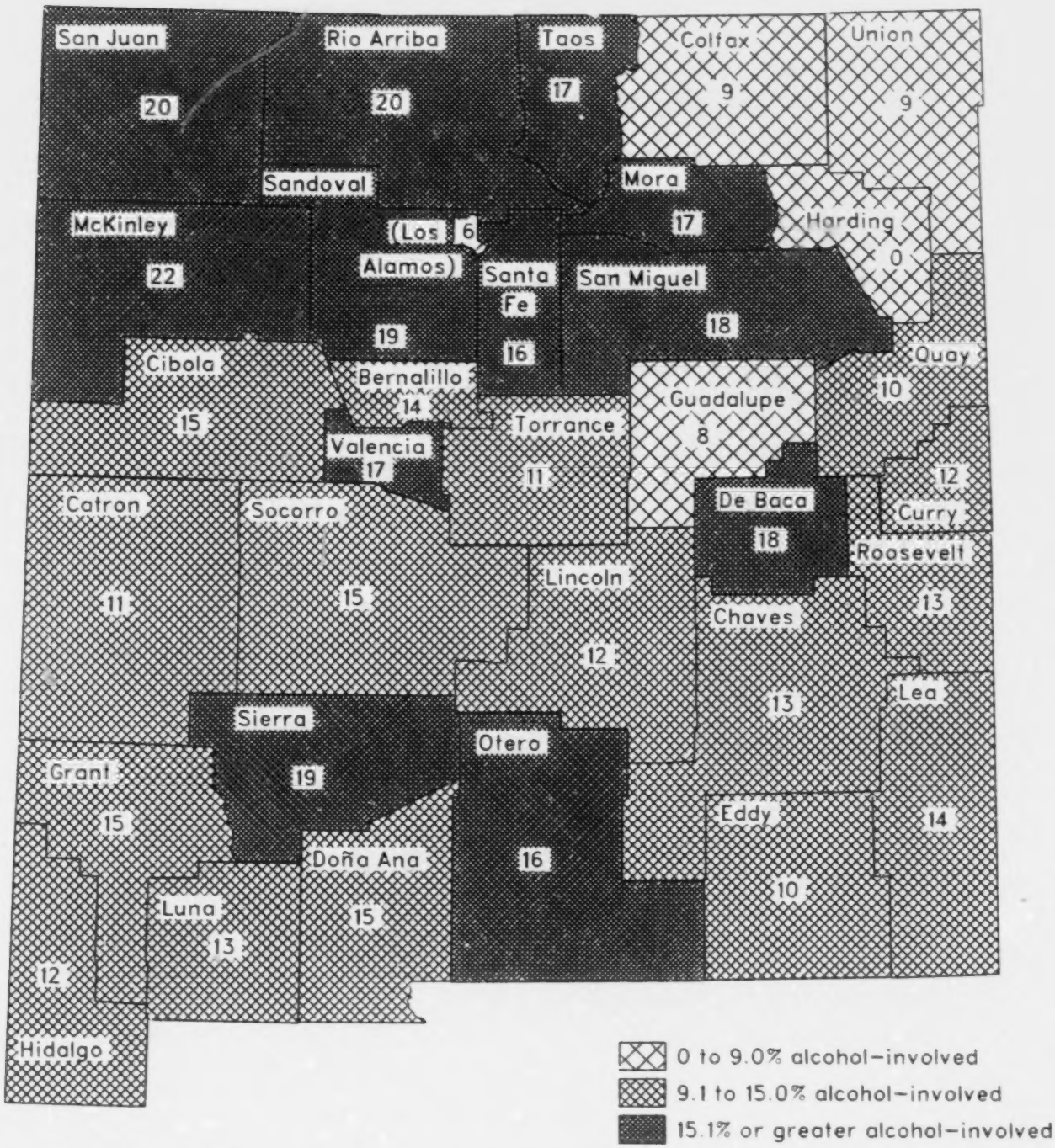
9.4 New Mexico Alcohol-involved Accidents by Day of the Week, 1983

Day	Total	Fatal	Injury
Sunday	1,230	55	566
Monday	590	19	252
Tuesday	661	20	301
Wednesday	681	28	317
Thursday	855	31	397
Friday	1,255	71	540
Saturday	1,890	79	848
Total	7,162	303	3,221

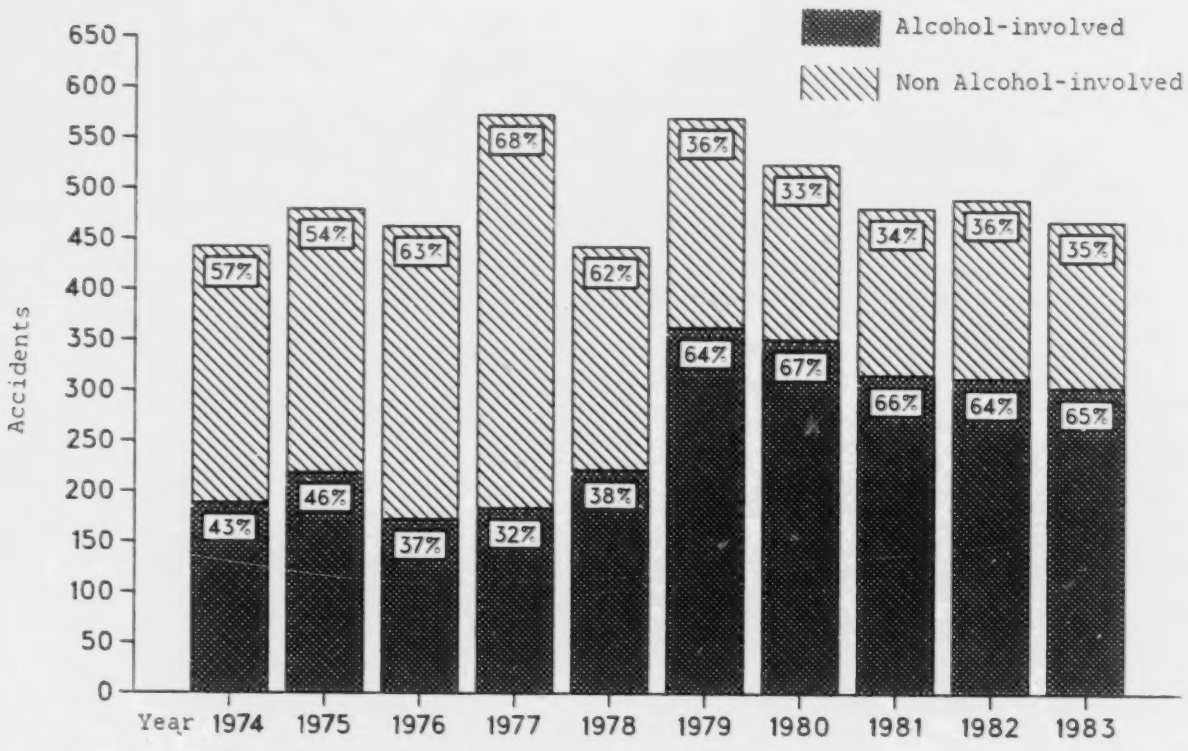


Almost half of the accidents on Sunday occurred before 5 a.m.

9.5 Percent Alcohol-involved Accidents by County, 1983



9.6 New Mexico Fatal Alcohol-involved Accidents by Year, 1974 - 1983



Reporting of alcohol involvement improved considerably in 1979.

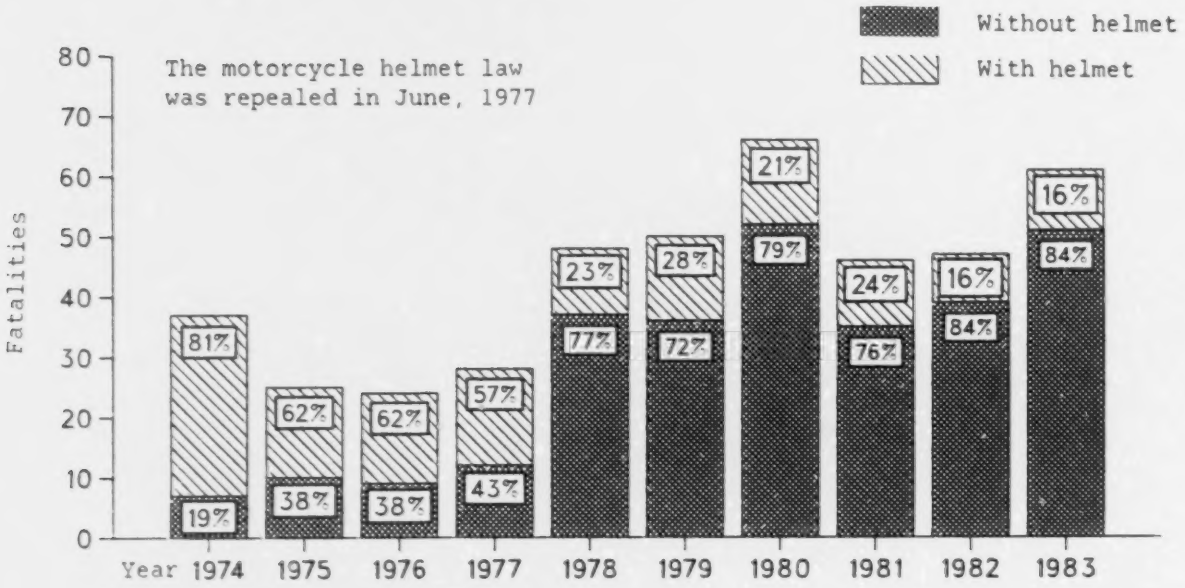
10.1 New Mexico Motorcycle Accident Trends, 1974 - 1983

Year	Number of accidents	Number of fatalities	Motorcycle registrations
1983	2,499	61	58,217
1982	1,950	47	58,587
1981	2,022	46	52,810
1980	1,769	66	50,576
1979	1,842	50	46,303
1978	1,683	49	42,557
1977	1,543	28	38,750
1976	1,327	24	37,578
1975	1,215	27	35,152
1974	1,259	37	33,521

10.2 New Mexico Helmet Usage and Injuries, 1983

Injury	With helmet	Without helmet	Total
Killed	10	51	61
Incapacitating	219	401	620
Visible injury	384	593	977
Complaint	143	170	313
Unhurt	181	338	519
Total	937	1,553	2,490

10.3 New Mexico Motorcycle Fatalities, 1974 - 1983



10.4 New Mexico Motorcycle Accidents by Class, 1983

Class	Total	Fatal	Injury	Total
Other vehicle	1,240	30	985	
Overturn	266	8	230	
Fixed object	199	14	161	
Other non-collision	186	2	160	
Parked vehicle	58	2	29	
Animal	35	2	31	
Other object	28	0	26	
Pedestrian	22	0	22	
Pedalcyclist	17	1	15	
Total	2,051	59	1,659	450 900

10.5 New Mexico Motorcycle Accident Driver Age, 1983

Age	Accidents			Persons	
	Total	Fatal	Injury	Killed	Injured
Under 15	155	2	101	2	106
15-19	459	12	379	11	440
20-24	630	15	515	16	578
25-29	406	11	345	11	384
30-34	204	7	163	7	179
35-39	115	8	91	8	105
40-44	51	1	45	3	49
45-49	38	2	27	2	30
50-54	15	0	11	0	12
55-59	11	0	9	0	9
60-64	8	0	7	0	7
Over 64	11	1	10	1	11
Total	2,103	59	1,703	61	1,910

11.1 New Mexico Traffic Accidents Involving Trains, 1964 - 1983

Year	Accidents				Persons	
	Total	Fatal	Injury	Property damage only	Killed	Injured
1983	12	1	5	6	1	6
1982	20	2	5	13	2	7
1981	22	3	10	9	4	14
1980	31	4	11	16	5	16
1979	35	8	10	17	8	14
1978	33	7	8	18	8	13
1977	26	2	9	15	3	15
1976	34	7	10	17	8	16
1975	34	0	16	18	0	24
1974	43	4	14	25	6	19
1973	44	4	17	23	5	21
1972	34	4	7	23	8	12
1971	44	6	11	27	10	15
1970	29	2	8	19	3	9
1969	32	6	8	18	6	12
1968	29	3	12	14	6	18
1967	25	4	5	16	7	8
1966	25	5	7	13	6	16
1965	35	3	6	26	5	8
1964	33	5	12	16	6	20

1983 had the lowest number of train accidents in twenty years.

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part of the INSTITUTE FOR APPLIED RESEARCH SERVICES at

THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO

The Division of Government Research provides specialized information processing services and analysis to a wide range of clients in New Mexico. Again, we are happy to have prepared this annual report for the N.M. Traffic Safety Bureau. This report displays a very small fraction of the data and information we have available about traffic accidents and highway conditions. In preparing this report, we have drawn on files that we maintain for the N.M. Traffic Safety Bureau and the N.M. State Highway Department.

Of interest to those with responsibilities for highway safety are other products the Division has produced such as:

PAPS -- Project Area Problem Summaries -- for each county and municipality with more than 40 accidents in one year.

Intersection reports for municipalities over 5,000 population.

Collision diagrams of traffic accidents at intersections can be produced for many cities in New Mexico.

GRNDB -- Geographic Road Network Database -- provides comprehensive computer mapping capabilities for all state highways in New Mexico. Any data about rural highways in this report can be portrayed in geographic context by using the GRNDB.

DWI Report -- In depth review of statistics concerning the offense of driving while intoxicated in New Mexico. Information is drawn from a variety of databases. The 1982 report is available, with the 1983 report to be available in Summer, 1984.

For further information about our specialized services in this and other fields, please contact the Director -- Robert U. Anderson -- at (505) 277-3305.

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New Mexico Traffic Accident Fatalities by County, 1983